Departmental Enquiries

3009. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of officers and other employees facing departmental enquiries for committing irregularities; and

(b) the number of officials against whom the challans have been filed in the courts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected from the field units and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Efforts for the Education of Labourers

3010. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any efforts to educate the labourers in unorganised sector about the provisions made under Labour Laws;

(b) if so, the details in this regard for the last three years; and

(c) the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Central Board for Workers' Education has been constituted by the Government for educating of workers, including those in the unorganised sector, about their rights and obligations through periodic training programmes, seminars, camps etc. The number of workers trained by the Board during the last three years is given below:

Year	Total number of workers trained
1993-94	128264
1994-95	156424
1995-96	140121

Closure of Mines

3011. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the mines of raw material division of Bihar and Orissa proposed to be closed down by the SAIL;

(b) the details of mining of various mines of dolomite and limestone under the SAIL in Bihar during each of the last three years;

(c) the annual loss being incurred by the dolomite and limestone mines located at Bhavnathpur of Bihar; and

(d) the measures taken by the SAIL to reduce the loss of the aforesaid mine alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINSTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) The limestone produced in the Purnapani mine in Orissa and Bhawanathpur mine in Bihar are having high silica and alkali and are unfavourable to techno-economic norms of iron making. At present SAIL has not taken any decision to close down these mines.

(b) Despatches of Limestone and Dolomite from Bhawanathpur group of mines in Bihar during the last three years were as under:

Unit : 000T

Year	Bhawanathpur Group of Mines
1993-94	586
1994-95	655
1995-96	583
1996-97 (Upto February' 97)	453

(c) and (d) Raw Materials Division of SAIL is a cost centre. The actual expenditure is transferred to the SAIL plants at the actual cost of production. Hence no profit and loss is accounted for these mines.

[English]

Completion of Kumarghat-Agartala Rail Line

3012. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the budgetary allocation during 1996-97 for extension of Railway line from Kumarghat to Agartala;

(b) the amount out of that spent so far;

(c) whether the Prime Minister has declared that extension of the above Railway line is likely to be completed within five years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Rs. 1 cr. has been allocated in Budget 96-97.

(b) Rs. 5 lakhs upto 31.12.96.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The work will be progressed rapidly once the land becomes available. Adequate funds would be provided accordingly.

[Translation]

Encroachment of Railway Land

3013. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of plots belonging to Railways have been illegally occupied in Delhi with the connivance of officers of Railways working on high posts;

(b) if so, the acreage of the land occupied;

(c) whether the Government propose to take action to get the said land vacated and initiate action against the officers found involved in it after conducting inquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of the action proposed to be taken in this regard and the time by which the said Railway land is likely to be got vacated from the illegal occupation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Media Distribution System

3014. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any system to show various TV Channels, without the cable network with the help of 'Media Distribution System';

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the above is likely to be started;

(c) whether these facilities will also be made available in small cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Wirelese Cable System, otherwise known as MMDS (Multichannel Multipoint Distribution System) is one of the various options being envisaged by the Government to improve the reach of its channels.

(b) to (d) The scheme is likely to be started during Ninth Plan subject to availability of resources. A detailed scheme is being worked out on an experimental basis at Bombay and Delhi.

[English]

Electrification Programme

3015. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed electrification programme implemented during the last three years in relation to the targets set therefor;

(b) if so, the details of achievement/performance recorded with percentage of shortfall in relation to the target set and back-log of electrification Zone-wise; and

(c) the details of the programme proposed to be executed during the current year Zone-wise in general and Maharashtra in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Review of Railway Electrification works is a continuous exercise. During VIII Five Year Plan a target of 2700 Route Kilometre for electrification was fixed. In the first four years of the Plan 2066 route kilometre have been electrified and electrification of 634 route kilometre is planned during 1996-97. The targets and achievements of electrification under Railway Electrification-Plan Head during last three yeas are as under :

Year	Target (RKM)	Achievement (RKM)	Shortfall/ Excess%age
1993-94	600	505	- 15.8%
1994-95	500	473	- 5.4%
1995-96	600	609	+ 1.5%

Zone-wise details of Route Kilometre electrified during last 3 years are indicated below:

Zone	Route Kilometre electrified		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
C.R.	136	89	-
E.R.	69	188	81
N,R	34	82	146
S.R.	13	-	132
S.C.R.	11	40	221
S.E.R.	219	74	29
W.R.	23	-	-
Total	505	473	609